

EXPLO Systems Inc

Camp Minden, Webster Parish, LA



Magazine Explosion –
Oct. 2012



Improper storage of M6 Propellant –
Nov. 2012

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February 14, 2014

ISSUE: 18M lbs of explosive materials in 97 filled magazines



18 M lbs of Explosives in 97 magazines

- 15 M lbs. M6 Propellant
- 1.817 M lbs. Tritonal (aluminum/TNT) mixture
- 0.66 M lbs. of Nitrocellulose
- **Additional Explosive Materials:**
 - 128 lbs. of black powder
 - 200 lbs. of Composition H6
 - Four 50-gallon drums of ammonium perchlorate
 - Two 50-gallon drums and 3-50 lb. boxes of Explosive D (ammonium picrate)
 - 109,000 lbs. of M30 propellant
 - 320,000 lbs. of Clean Burning Incendiary (CBI)
 - Unknown volume of Red Water (water contaminated with TNT)
 - Effluent associated with the Super Critical Water Oxidation Unit (SCWO)

Mixed Explosives within Storage Magazines

OUTSIDE EXPLOSIVE
STORAGE MAGAZINE



EXPLOSIVE STORAGE
MAGAZINE AFTER
EXPLOSION – OCT. 2012



DRAFT

Mixed Explosives within Storage Magazines

ALUMINUM/TNT AND M6
PROPELLANT – SPILLING
CONTENTS



ALUMINUM/TNT AND M6
PROPELLANT – STACKED
AND FALLING OVER



AOC with General Dynamics and ATK

- Remove and dispose of ~ 3M lbs. of explosives:
 - 200 lbs Composition H6
 - 109,000 lbs of M30 propellant
 - All nitrocellulose in containers identified as being shipped by ATK
 - All nitrocellulose/propellant powder identified as shipped by St. Mark's Powder
 - 1.817-2.2 million lbs. of tritonal mixed with tar/aluminum and TNT.
- Work scheduled to begin April 2014
- ~ 6-9 months to complete removal



Nitrocellulose Drums

Imminent Explosive Risk

- **15 M lbs. of M6 Propellant with Rapidly Deteriorating Stability**
 - As Propellant ages, stabilizer degrades resulting in auto-ignition and explosion
- **DoD Explosives Safety Board Concerns:**
 - **Risk - Similar to Magazine Explosion in Oct. 2012**
 - Complete destruction of magazine and damaged 11 railcars
 - 7,000 –foot mushroom cloud
 - Shattered windows in Minden, LA – 4 miles away
 - **Insufficient stabilizer to prevent auto-ignition**
 - **Imminent risk of explosion greatly increases by August 2015**



Completed Actions:

- Signed AOC – Removal of ~ 3M lbs. of Mixed Explosives
- GNL notice and CERCLA AOC to DoD/US Army
- Draft RCRA 7003 – US Army
- Draft CERCLA AOC/UAO - LMD



Next Steps:

- Meeting with LDEQ, LSP, LMD on Feb. 25, 2014
- AOC/UAO Negotiation – US Army/LMD
- Fund–Lead Removal Action



Actions to Remove Threat

- Issue RCRA 7003 Order to US ARMY
- Issue CERCLA orders to LMD
- Approve of Action Memo to Initiate Removal Action
 - Cost: Action Memo Ceiling = \$26 M
 - Time Required: Complete by August 2015

